

Getting tough on crime requires buy-in

Re: "[State vows to get tougher on crime](#)" (Page A1, Jan. 1).

The story is correct about describing how most of us feel about property crime and the lack of attention it previously received.

The passing of laws and propositions without the cooperation of the police, prosecutors and the courts will not accomplish anything.

Offenders must be held accountable and that requires that the courts give appropriate consequences and set appropriate bail when an offender has a sufficient record and continues offending. Thus far, especially in misdemeanor cases, this has not been the practice.

Many offenders have substance abuse problems. Drug treatment courts save lives. In order for them to work, offenders must be brought to court and given a choice to participate or face other consequences that they might feel are less desirable.

If we want safer communities, we must take stronger action.

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